GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1402
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2017
Condition of Rice Growers
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the deplorable socio-economic condition of the rice growers in Assam though the State is one of the largest rice growing States in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken proper action for procurement of foodgrains including rice from Assam by the Government agencies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (c): The State Department of Agriculture, Assam has informed that State is aware of the need of improving socio-economic conditions of the farmers in the State whose cropping sequence is mainly based on paddy. Marginal operational holding in Assam constitute 67.32 per cent of total operational holdings as per Agril. Census, 2010-11. The marginal and small holdings taken together constitute 85.57per cent of the total holdings. Moreover, recurring flood in Assam adversely affect the income of the rice growers in particular & farmers in general.

Targeting improvement in socio-economic condition of Rice growing in the State, Government of Assam has been implementing specialized centrally sponsored schemes like Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), etc. Including procurement of paddy from growers at Minimum Support Price (MSP). Number of Government agencies like Assam State Agricultural Marketing Board (ASAMB), Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), National Federation of Farmers' Procurement, Processing and Retailing Cooperatives of India Ltd. (NACOF) & National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) are involved in procurement of paddy from Rice growers of the State. In 2016-17, a total of 62514.50 metric tonnes (MT) of paddy had been procured from the Rice Growers.

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